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ing for me. I have been a great lover of reading your works. Well, Lyof Nikolaevitch, we are now in a state of war; please write to me whether it is agreeable to God or not that our commanders compel us to kill. I beg you, Lyof Nikolaevitch, write to me please whether or not the truth now exists on earth. Tell me, Lyof Nikolaevitch. In church here a prayer is being read, the priest mentions the Christ-loving army. Is it true or not that God loves-war? I pray you, Lyof Nikolaevitch, have you got any books from which I could see whether truth exists on earth or not. Send me such books. What they cost, I will pay. I beg you, Lyof Nikolaevitch, do not neglect my request. If there are no books, then send me a letter. I will be very glad when I receive a letter from you. I will await your letter with impatience. Good-by for the present. I remain alive and well, and wish the same to you from the Lord God. Good health and good success in your work."

There follows the address, Port Arthur, the name of the ship on which the correspondent serves, his rank and his name.

In a direct way, in words, I cannot answer this dear, serious and truly enlightened man. He is in Port Arthur, with which there no longer is any communication either by letter or telegraph. But we still have a mutual means of communication. This means is that God in whom we both believe and concerning whom we both know that war is not according to His will. The doubt which has arisen in his soul contains at the same time its own solution. And this doubt has now arisen and is living in the souls of thousands and thousands of men, not only Russians and not only Japanese, but all those unfortunate people who are compelled by violence to fulfill the act most repellent to human nature.

The hypnotism by which people have been stupefied and by which governments still endeavor to stupefy them soon passes off, and its effect is becoming weaker and weaker; whereas the doubt as to "whether or not it be agreeable to God that our commanders compel us to kill" grows stronger and stronger, cannot in any way be extinguished, and keeps spreading further and further.

The doubt as to "whether or not it be agreeable to God that our commanders compel us to kill"—this is a spark of that fire which Jesus kindled upon earth and which is beginning to spread. To know and feel this is a great joy.

LEO TOLSTOY.

YASNAYA POLIANA, May 21, 1904.

The Peace Cause at the Women's International Council in Berlin.

Statement by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, President of the Council.

Mrs. May Wright Sewall, who was the president of the International Council of Women at its recent great meeting in Berlin, has returned to America, and from her home in Indianapolis writes to the *Woman's Journal* an account of the Peace Evening at the Berlin Congress, which she pronounces one of the most impressive occasions in her experience. Mrs. Sewall is chairman of the International Peace Committee of the Council. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-

national Peace Congress which is to meet in Boston in October, and is working for the largest possible representation of the women of the country at the Congress. At Berlin she did much to stimulate European interest in the Congress and in the whole cause of peace and arbitration. She gives for publication the following account of the action of the women at Berlin in this matter:

"During the recent quinquennial of the International Council at Berlin its Peace Committee held six sessions. As its acting chairman, I invited all the members of the Council executives from all countries, who were not members of the standing committees on peace or laws concerning domestic relations, to meet with the members of the Peace Committee. This meeting was held on the evening of Monday, June 6, and proved to be a very stimulating conference. Seventeen of the nineteen countries now having organized National Councils were represented by from one to six members of their representative National Council workers. Each country in turn was invited to give a résumé of its situation so far as matters of peace, war, arbitration, armaments, etc., were concerned.

"Mrs. Dixon of New South Wales told the story of a country which for one hundred years had neither army nor navy. The first cannon made in New South Wales was manufactured when Great Britain called upon her colonies for help in the Boer war. Mrs. Dixon said that war was popular in New South Wales; that all the young men wanted to go; and now she said that the presence of war in Asia made New South Wales feel the necessity of being able to defend its coast. It was evident that all the British colonies felt that the Boer war had given them an opportunity to prove their loyalty. It is pitiful that, at this stage of civilization, the killing of a perfect stranger, toward whom one can have no rational feeling of animosity, or the exposing of oneself to be slain by such a stranger, is regarded, by highly educated people, as a final proof of loyalty and the finest exhibition of patriotism. The delegates representing Great Britain itself told of the antagonism that had been excited by the suggestion of a member of the British government to introduce the conscription system. The presentation of the attitude of various classes of Englishmen toward this proposition was one of the chief features of interest at the conference.

"Mrs. Sherriff-Bain of New Zealand reported that the result of the Boer war in her country had been to make military drill an almost universal part of public school education, and that many women teachers give the boys instruction in the use of arms and superintend the drills. She reported that to many of the women this was very obnoxious, and that consultation had been held regarding what action should be taken if a willingness to take charge of the military drills of the boys should come to be a legal requirement of women teachers. Personally I felt some gratification in the reflection that in New Zealand 'the ballot and the bullet' would be going together at least. Whatever incongruities there would be in refined women, engaged in what is supposed to be the most civilizing of professions (teaching), drilling boys in the use of swords and muskets, it would certainly be less galling to an enfranchised woman than the same requirement would be to a disfranchised one. It

is, however, to be hoped that should the supervision of military drill and the use of firearms come to be a requirement, a 'strike' will be declared by the women teachers of New Zealand.

"There was a great difference of opinion among the representatives of the different countries as to the degree to which the advocacy of peace and arbitration should be made through political parties. It was quite evident that the women representing countries where women suffrage obtains were ready, independent of their own national partisan affiliation, to unite in the support of a candidate who would favor arbitration. The representatives of all the countries except Germany felt that this movement should be kept entirely independent of politics. The German women present said that in Germany only the Social Democrats as a party favor the diminution of the army, and approve seeking adjustment of international difficulties by arbitration. They therefore thought that could women who believe that the decrease of militarism is a first necessity give their moral support to political leaders sharing this opinion, even if such political leaders entertain many other opinions that are obnoxious, this might result not only in strengthening the arbitration movement in Germany, but also in moderating certain claims of the Social Democrats.

"Baroness von Suttner, who was present, and who is to be present at the Peace Congress in Boston in October, made an eloquent appeal on purely moral grounds for the disapproval of war under any circumstances. She urged women, regardless of what seemed to be the political interests of their families, bravely to advocate in private and public the methods of arbitration, to oppose the conscription system, to demand gradual disarmament and to instill into the minds of children and youth a horror of war.

"Countess di Brazza, representing the Italian Council on this Committee, insisted upon the necessity of reaching disarmament through the education of children under the influence of non-military ideals. She spoke of the necessity of providing games that should not involve the mimicry of military life, and of so revising children's literature that the heroes of industry and art, of charity and benevolence, would displace the military heroes who now dominate the imagination of childhood.

"The representative of Hungary, Miss Gulick, a brilliant young journalist, who acted as secretary of the committee during its Berlin session, told the story of a movement among the peasantry of Hungary which has resulted in an organization of a new religious sect calling its members the Nazarenes. The fundamental principle of the creed of this sect is opposition to war even to the point of non-resistance. The sect is growing rapidly, and, although at first limited to the humble, is spreading its influence and gathering strength among the upper classes. It is practically a new recognition of the claim of that human brotherhood which at the present time is being advocated under so many forms and names.

"There was probably no other committee that did a tithe of the work during the Berlin meetings that was done by the Peace Committee; and the report sent in by it and adopted by the full vote of the Council commits the International Council to a sturdy advocacy of peace by arbitration during the next five years. There were four resolutions adopted which authorized the Com-

mittee: first, to prepare a bibliography of peace and arbitration which will include the most effective and most accessible articles, monographs, etc., in German, French and English, upon this subject; and further, to commend to every affiliated National Council to organize within its Peace Committee a sub-committee whose special business it shall be to make a careful investigation of the histories that are now being taught in the schools, with a view to reducing the space and emphasis given to military achievements and increasing the recognition of peaceful evolution, of industrial progress, of the value of arts and letters and of those who produce them. The Council also voted to send delegates to every International Peace Congress which should be held, and to ask every affiliated National Council always to send a delegate to every National Peace Congress which may be held in its own country.

"As I have given an account elsewhere of the peace meeting, which was a most marvelous demonstration, it will add here only a line to say that in Berlin, the very capital of the strongest militarism in the world, there was no subject that elicited anything like the enthusiasm which did this subject of 'Peace by Arbitration.' The people know that war is a burden; mothers see its shadow hanging over the cradles in their nurseries; and the feeling is universal that in every other department of life pinching economy is practiced in order that there may be unlimited indulgence and splendor in military equipments."

Pamphlets Received.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION. By Hon. J. M. Dickinson. Annual address before the Literary Societies of Vanderbilt University, June 14, 1904. Reprint from the VANDERBILT QUARTERLY.

STORY OF THE FORMATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU. Local Peace Association, Wisbech, England.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PEACE SOCIETY. London: 47 New Broad St., E. C.

TOLSTOY'S LETTER ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR. Chicago: The Hammersmark Publishing Co. Price, 10 cts.

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Form of Bequest.

I hereby give and bequeath to the American Peace Society, Boston, a corporation established under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, the sum of ——— dollars, to be employed by the Directors of said Society for the promotion of the cause of peace.